Minister will reconsider the question of pay scales and service conditions of the employees of these Regional Rural Banks from whom you are expecting more for the implementaion of our economic programmes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Minister. You make up your mind!

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, it is very true that the RRBs are very critical in implementing all these schemes for the people. While we have to take care of the amenities of the people working in these banks, they are part of the banking system and we are trying to do our best for them. At the same time, we have also to see how many people we cover and how much service we render to the people and this was the flexibility which was adopted and by this method we thought we could cover more people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Ram Chandra Vikal.

श्री रामचन्द्र विकल : मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि उन्हीं के बैंकों में यह भेद है तन्खाहों में, फिर उन के विभागों में भेद है, केन्द्र और राज्य सरकार के कर्मचारियों की तन्खाहों में भेद है। तो क्या वित्त मंत्री जी जो सर्वोपरि हैं वेतनमानों में समानता लाने के लिए और समान काम के लिये समान वेतन देने की नीति पर विचार कर रहे हैं? केन्द्र के और राज्य सरकारों के विभागों में समान काम करने के लिए समान वेतन हो इस बारे में क्या वे विचार कर रहे हैं?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: As you know, Sir, these Regional Rural Banks have been set up for the implementation of the programmes for the weaker sections. They have also to help the weaker sections in the rural areas. They have to serve the people whose income does not exceed Rs. 6500. Sir, here even the people who are recruited in rural banks are from the district itself; they are not from any other place. Sir, here also it is a statutory provision. And when the rural banks have been set up it has been made very clear that it is a low-cost structure in order to help the weaker sections in the rural areas and also the people below the poverty line. And they have to be served. For this purpose the arrangement has been made. Hence they have to serve. So this is the arrangement that has been made.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Shrimati Asima Chatterjee.

Exports by small and large scale sectors

*388. PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE:†

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) what was the percetnage of exports during the last three years by the small scale and large scale sectors of industries, yearwise;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a rapid decline in exports, particularly by the small scale sector;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to encourage exports by the above sector by giving incentives or liberalising the export restrictions; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of House.

Statement

(a) According to foreign trade statistics compiled by the DGCI&S, India's total exports were Rs. 7805.9 crores in 1981-82, Rs. 8907.8 crores in 1982-83 and Rs. 9872.1 crores in 1983-84. The latest available provisional figure for India's total export during 1984-85 is Rs. 11396.0 crores. Export statistics are not com-

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. (Mrs.) Asima Chatterjee.

pi.ed separately for the small scale sector and the large scale sector of industry. However direct and indirect exports from the small scale sector are substantial.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE: Sir, exports are the mainstreams of any developing economy, and it appears that there is a steady decline of exports in the small-scale sector. May I know from the Minister if this is due to the low quality of our products, lack of marketing capability and publicity in foreign countries, lack of after-sale service and competition from other countries who are able to offer better chance and price structure in raw materials. What steps the Government is thinking to take to boost the export promotion? What is the innovative thinking?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, I have stated that there is no decline in exports in the small-scale sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you got any ideas to improve it? After all, the Member wants to know whether you are going to do anything to improve it.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, we have done a lot of things to improve the exports in the small-scale sector. In the new policy that was announced everything is there, I do not think I need repeat. But I must emphasise that the contribution of the small-scale sector in the export market has been tremendous. In fact, the major items of our exports, when we take items like diamonds, gems and jewellery, handlooms and handicrafts, marine products and most of our export items have been produced in the small-scale sector. In fact, the large-scale industries have not been making efforts in export promotion, and in every forum I have been emphasising that large-sector industries must also come forward to promote exports. At the moment, it has been largely the contribution from the small-scale sector. So directly and indirectly, exports from the small-scale sector have been growing and we have been trying our best to help them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE: Sir, what measures Goernment has taken to liberalise imports of inputs of raw materials to ensure availability of inputs and to give impetus for export-oriented units in agricultural and industrial sectors?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, in fact we have liberalised the policy of imports and inputs so much that I do not think there is any problem at the moment. Again I would refer to the new policy which has been announced. On the one hand, we have been criticized that we are too liberal, and our intention is to make the inputs available not only in the small-scale sector but also the large-scale sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jagesh Desai.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now the hon. Minister stated that many items which are manufactured in the small-scale sector are exported. I would like to know whether the Government will prepare statistics in future at least for the small-scale industries' exports and big industries' exports, so that we can know how many people are benefited by exports in the small-scale sector and how many people are benefited by exports by big industries.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Though the official data is not split in respect of the small-scale sector and large-scale sector, yet the data that we have got from Export Promotion Councils and Boards shows that the share of the small-scale sector is 26 per cent of India's total non-oil exports. So far as non-oil exports are concerned, the share has been stationary. It has not declined. The decline in the share in the total export is reflected because our oil exports went up. So far as non-oil exports are concerned, the share is according to this data that has already been mentioned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jagdambi Prasad Yadav.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : लघु उद्योग में जो पहनने के बने हुए कपड़े हैं उनकी खरीद साउथ ईस्ट एशिया में तो है, प्रोग्रेसिव भी है लेकिन यूरोपियन

कंटरीज में इसकी प्रोग्रेस अभी तक नही हो रही है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि जो गारमेंट्स, पोशाक बने बनाये जाते है इसकी मार्किटिंग युरोपिय कंटरीज में भी हो, अमेरिकन कंटरीज में भी हो इसके लिये क्या सरकार उनको कुछ छूट देगी जिस प्रकार से हेवी इंडस्ट्रीज को, बड़े उद्योगों को एक्सपोर्ट करने के लिये देती है।? उनको बढ़ाने के लिये, मशीन मंगाने के लिये बहुत सी सुविधाएं देती है इसको भी क्या इस प्रकार की सुविधा देगी जिससे ये अपना माल विदेशों में भेज सकें और देश को काफी-काफी फारेन एक्सचेंज मिल सके ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, we do export garments to the US and the European countries, and the facilities that have been given for the small scale sector are: The limit on capital investment on plant and machinery in respect of small scale units has been increased from Rs. 20 lakhs of Rs. 35 lakhs. The category of automatic licences have been abolished. Most of them which appear are of automatic permissible list. This gives a lot of benefit to the small scale sector. Then the import of proto-type facilities continue. The import of capital goods through the NSIC to small scale sector continues. So, there is quite a provision to give impetus as the hon. Member has in mind.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 389.

Financial assistance and loans given under the DRI scheme

*389. SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what quantum of financial assistance under DRI Scheme has been given by the various nationalised banks during the period 1st April to 31st July, 1984 to the (i) tribal people, (ii) persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and (iii) weaker sections of society in the Districts of Baroda, Surat, Dangyyara, Mandvi Bulsar and Chhota Udaipur in Gujarat; and

(b) what are the plans and programmes of Government to give more such assistance to such people under the 20-point Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has informed that the present data reporting system does not generate district-wise information on Differential Rate of Interest Scheme (DRI). However, according to the latest information available with Reserve Bank the total advances outstanding in the State of Gujarat under DRI were Rs. 42.62 crores in 3.70 lakh borrowal accounts. Under DRI Scheme the banks have been asked to advance 1 per cent of their total advances outstanding at the end of previous year. This target is bank-wise and there are no State-wise targets. However, in the State of Gujarat the advances under DRI as at the end of December 1983 constituted 2.2 per cent of the total outstanding advances as at the end of the previous year. The advances to the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were Rs. 29.39 crores, in 2.59 lakh borrowal accounts, amounting to 69 per cent of the total advances.

The banks will continue to provide loans under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme to the eligibile beneficiaries, including the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as per the target assigned by the Government.

श्री रामसिंह भाई पातलीया भाई राठवा सभापति जी, 'क' का जवाब तो मुझे मिल गया लेकिन 'ख' का जवाब जो दिया गया है वह मैं समझ नही सका। इसलिए फिर से मंत्री महोदय 'ख' का जवाब देने की कृपा करें।

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: Sir, under the DRI scheme, the target fixed is that one per cent of the total advances to be given to the weaker section. That target has been reached already. Now